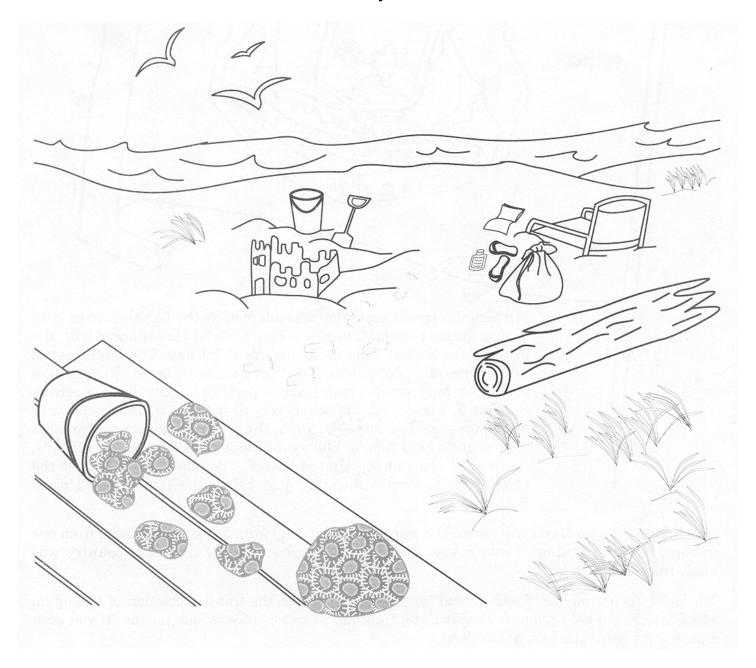
State Stone

Petoskey Stone



Petoskey stones are fossil fragments from ancient corals. The corals were found in the northern counties of Michigan lower peninsula about 350 million years ago. The living corals died, and were transformed into large fossil reefs. Fragments from the fossil reefs were scattered by glaciers about 1.8 million years ago. These fossil fragments are found on beaches as pebbles and cobbles, rounded by the action of the waves. Petoskey stones are most often found along the shorelines of Lake Michigan, Lake Huron and inland lakes. Michigan adopted the Petoskey stone as the official state stone by the 73rd Legislature under Public Act 89 of 1965. The Bill that made the Petoskey stone the state stone was House Bill 2297 of 1965.